CSE 7000 W13: Master's Thesis

Summer 2026

Georgia Institute of Technology

Instructor: Anqi Wu
Department: School of Computational Science and Engineering
CRN: 55797
Course Format: Faculty-supervised master's thesis research
Meeting Time/Location: By arrangement
Office Hours: By appointment
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Catalog Description

Master's thesis research conducted under the supervision of a faculty advisor, culminating in a written thesis and, when applicable, an oral defense.

Course Overview

This course supports students in conducting original research leading to a master's thesis. Students are expected to identify a significant research problem, develop novel methods or insights, and produce a comprehensive written thesis that demonstrates technical depth, rigor, and originality.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students are expected to:

- formulate a novel and well-motivated research problem;
- design and execute a rigorous research methodology;
- demonstrate deep technical expertise in a specialized area;
- contribute original insights, methods, or findings;
- communicate research contributions clearly in a thesis and presentation.

Thesis Structure

The thesis work typically includes:

- problem formulation and motivation;
- literature review and positioning within prior work;
- methodological development or system design;
- experiments, evaluation, and analysis;
- conclusions and discussion of future work.

Expectations

Students are expected to demonstrate a high level of independence, rigor, and professionalism:

- meet regularly with the thesis advisor;
- maintain steady and well-documented progress;
- take ownership of research direction and execution;
- engage in critical thinking and iterative refinement of ideas.

A detailed research plan and timeline will be established early in the term.

Assessment

Evaluation is based on research quality, originality, and completeness:

- Research formulation and significance: 20%
- Progress and execution: 30%
- Technical depth and originality: 30%
- Final thesis and presentation/defense: 20%

Deliverables

The primary deliverables include:

- a written master's thesis;
- supporting materials (code, experiments, datasets, etc.);
- an oral presentation or thesis defense (if required).

Attendance and Communication

There are no formal lectures. Students are expected to attend regular meetings with the advisor and maintain consistent, professional communication.

Late Work

Thesis timelines will be defined in coordination with the advisor and program requirements. Students are expected to communicate early regarding any delays.

Academic Integrity

All work must comply with the Georgia Tech Honor Code. Proper attribution of prior work, code, and datasets is required.

Accessibility and Student Support

Students requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services and notify the instructor early. Georgia Tech provides additional academic and wellness resources to support student success.

Institute Policies

All Georgia Tech policies on academic conduct, non-discrimination, accessibility, and student behavior apply.

Note: This syllabus outlines general expectations for master's thesis research. Specific requirements may vary depending on the research project, advisor expectations, and program guidelines.